




URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF CROMPTON.

INTERIM ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

For the year ended
1939.



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INTERIM ANNUAL REPORT OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
for the
URBAN SANITARY DISTRICT OF CROMPTON
Lancashire.

For the Year ending December 31st, 1939.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Crompton Urban District Council.

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report for
the Year ending December 31st, 1939.

I wish to express my thanks both to Mr. Milne
and the Sanitary Inspector (Mr. F. Taylor) for their
assistance during the year.

I remain, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

K.D. MURCHISON.

M.O.H.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

1.- K. D. MURCHISON, D.S.O., M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.,
Medical Officer of Health (Part time).

2.- FRANK TAYLOR, Cert. R.S.L., Sanitary Officer
(Whole Time).

Area of the District.--	2865 Acres.
Population (R.G. 1939).--	13,140 (Birth Rate). 13,050 (Death Rate).
Number of inhabited houses 1931.--	3,985.
" " " " 1939.--	4,029.
Number of families on separate } Occupiers Census 1931.	3,960.
Rateable Value.--	£65,002.
Sum of a penny rate.--	£210.

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

HOUSING:--

During the year 12 houses were erected by the Council and 7 by private enterprise, making a total of 19 for the year.

Including the above, the total number of houses erected since the survey of 1919, viz:--

By the Council (Housing Act 1919)	80
" " " 1924)	206
" " " 1936)	185
	<hr/>
	471
By Private Enterprise.	252
	<hr/>
Total.	<u>723</u>

OVERCROWDING:--

The following shows the position of overcrowding at the end of 1939:--

	Upon Survey 1926 & since.	Became uncrowded 1936-39.	Total overcrowded at end of 1939.
Council house.	21	16	5
Condemned Houses.	10	10	-
General Overcrowding.	121	87	34
	<hr/>		
	152	113	39

LABORATORY WORK:-

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS.

	Positive.	Negative	Total.
Diphtheria.	-	10	10
Milk Bacteria Count.	-	-	22
Milk (Bovine T.B.)	-	21	21

Diphtheria Serum (5,000 units) is kept at the Town Hall, Shaw, and supplied gratuitously to medical men upon request.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES:-

ISOLATION HOSPITALS.

- 1.- Chadderton, Royton, and Crompton (Joint) Cinder Hill, Chadderton. For Smallpox only.
- 2.- Oldham Corporation Hospital, Westhulme, Oldham.
- 3.- Boundary Park Municipal Hospital, Oldham.

SANATORIA AND TUBERCULOSIS HOSPITALS.

The various Sanatoria and Hospitals under the Lancashire County Council are available for the District but are not provided nor subsidised by the Local Authority.

HOSPITALS.

- 1.- Oldham Royal Infirmary.
- 2.- Oldham Poor Law Hospital.
- 3.- Several Manchester Hospitals.

There is no institutional provision for unmarried mothers, illegitimate children, and homeless children, except the Oldham Poor Law Hospital.

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED DURING
THE YEAR 1939.

Notifiable Diseases.	Number of Cases notified.													Total cases removed to Hospital.	Deaths in Hospital of Patients removed from the District.
	At all ages.	At Ages - Years.													
		Under 1	1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 65	65 upwards.		
Scarlet Fever.	38	-	-	2	4	3	16	4	3	5	1	-	-	31	
Diphtheria.	1									1				1	
Chickenpox.	18	4	1		4	2	4	2	-	1				1	
Measles.	1							1							
Ophthalmia Neonatorum.	1	1													
Erysipelas.	6								1	1		4		1	
Pneumonia.	17					2	3	1	2	1	1	5	2	1	
Whooping Cough.	2				1	1									
Totals.	84	5	1	2	9	8	23	8	6	9	2	9	2	52	-

TUBERCULOSIS.

New Cases and Mortality during 1939.

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0 - 1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 - 5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 - 10	-	-	3	1	-	-	1	-
10 - 15	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-
15 - 20	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	-
20 - 25	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-
25 - 35	-	-	-	3	1	1	-	-
35 - 45	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
45 - 55	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
55 - 65	1	-	1	-	2	-	-	-
65 and upwards.	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
	3 -		9 5		5 1		2 -	
	3		14		6		2	

Non-notified Tuberculosis Deaths, - Nil.
The notification of Tuberculosis in this District is very satisfactory.

DEATHS.

Causes of Death in Crompton during 1939.

Name of Disease.	No. of Deaths.	
	Males.	Females.
Whooping Cough.		1
Influenza.		2
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis)	5	1
Other Tuberculosis Diseases.	2	
General Paralysis, Tabes, etc.	2	
Cancer.	14	9
Diabetes.	1	2
Cerebral Haemorrhage &c.	5	9
Heart Disease.	29	33

Name of Disease.	No. of Deaths.	
	Males.	Females.
Other Circulatory Diseases.	5	8
Bronchitis.	6	3
Pneumonia (all forms).	4	3
Other Respiratory Diseases.		1
Other Liver Diseases.		1
Other Digestive Diseases.	3	2
Acute and Chronic Nephritis.		4
Puerperal Sepsis.		1
Other Puerperal Diseases.		1
Congenital Debility, Premature Birth &c.	6	2
Senility.	4	5
Suicide.	2	3
Other violent Deaths.	4	-
Other Defined Diseases.	6	4
Totals - all causes.	98	95

INFANTILE DEATHS AND CAUSES (UNDER ONE YEAR).

Causes of Death.	Under 1 week.	1 and under 2 wks.	2 and under 3 wks.	3 and under 4 wks.	Total under 4 wks.	1 and under 3 months.	3 and under 6 months.	6 and under 9 months.	9 and under 12 months.	Total Deaths under 1 year.
Convulsions.							1			1
Pneumonia.							1			1
Atelectasis.	1				1					1
Tumour Mid-Brain.								1		1
Spina Bifida.			1	1	2					2
Cerebral Haemorrhage.	1				1					1
Bronchitis.				1	1					1
Congenital Debility.	2				2			1		3
Premature Birth.										
Malformations etc.										
	4		1	2	7		2	2		11

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES
IN CROMPTON:-

WATER.

The water supply of this District is very good, and is derived from the Oldham Corporation Reservoirs.

A few farms and houses in the outlying districts are supplied from wells and springs.

SCAVENGING.

All household refuse is collected once weekly by two motors owned by the Council and is disposed of by incineration at the Destructor.

156 barrels of nightsoil were tipped into the sewer at Jubilee.

REFUSE DESTROYER.

The plant comprises three cells made by Dawson & Mansfield.

3,914 loads of household refuse were received and burned, and 68 loads of clinker tipped.

A baling press for reducing the bulk of tins, scrap iron, paper etc., is in use.

DISINFESTATION AND DISINFECTION.

The furniture of 17 housing tenants was subjected to treatment before entry into the new Council Houses. This was effected by spraying with insecticide before leaving the house, and then to fumigation whilst in the removal van at the Town Hall Yard.

2 houses were treated for vermin at the request of the owner or occupier; a charge being made in each case.

After Infectious Disease infected rooms are sprayed with formaldehyde and afterwards fumigated with formalin lamps.

59 houses and 1 school were disinfected during the year.

All bedding and infected articles were subjected to steam at the Disinfecting Station or immersed in liquid disinfectant.

STATEMENT AS TO HOUSES IN THE DISTRICT
AND THEIR SANITARY CONDITION.

No. of Houses...	1939.
" Factories, Workshops, Lock-up Shops, etc....	4129
" Houses without back door ...	235
" Houses back-to-back ...	181
" Pail Closets.. ...	49
" Water Closets. ...	125
" Waste Water Closets ...	4196
" Open Ashpits.. ...	246
" Ashbins.. ...	2
" Privies (not Privy middens).. ...	3979
" Cesspools ...	15
	2

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICT.

No. of Premises inspected on complaint, etc...	244
" Inspections of Factories...	62
" " Workshops and Bakchouses ...	63
" " Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops ...	106
" " Slaughtershouses... ..	361
" " Meat Shops.. ...	925
" " Fish, Fruit and Vegetables ...	977
" " Chip Shops.. ...	75
" " Shops Act... ..	256
" " Common Lodging Houses and Houses Let in Lodgings. ...	5
" Visits paid to Market. ...	52
" " Houses under the Housing and Public Health Acts ...	235
" " Overcrowding.. ...	48
No. of Inspections as to Drainage. ...	31
" " Stables and Manure Heaps...	45
" " Caravans and Van Dwellers..	5
" " Tips. ...	9
" " Pig Sties... ..	30
" " Miscellaneous... ..	6

	3535
Preliminary Notices...	263
Statutory Notices ...	8
Prosecutions:-	1
Defendant was ordered to cleanse dirty house and to pay costs ...	
Nuisances or defects discovered...	368
" " remedied ...	349

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

There are 93 premises which come under this designation. During the year 123 inspections were made. Two notices were served regarding nuisances which were remedied by the end of the year.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES, ETC.

There are 3 houses of this type, 2 are used as Weekly Lodgings, 1 as a Common Lodging House,

They have been frequently inspected and found to be in a fairly clean and satisfactory condition.

SLAUGHTER HOUSES.

There are now 8 private slaughter houses in the District.

Slaughterhouses are licensed annually. The premises are visited at irregular intervals, if possible when slaughtering is taking place.

All slaughterhouses, lairs and pens were kept in a satisfactory condition during the year.

DAIRIES AND COWSHEDS.

The following are registered under the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1926.

Dairy Farms...	...	...	...	...	...	...	36
Cowkeepers only	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Farmers and Dairy Men from adjoining Districts							
retailing Milk in Crompton.	...						20

During the year 106 visits were paid to the Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops within the District.

BAKEHOUSES.

There are 27 Bakehouses on the Register. During the year 78 inspections were made. They were all found to be in a clean and satisfactory condition.

MILK.

Summary of Milk Examinations during 1939.

Sample No.	Cultivation of Bacteria at 37° in 48 hrs. per 1.c.c.	Bacillus Coli present in			Cells and Cellular Products in parts per 100,000.	Extraneous Material Dirt, etc., in parts per 100,000.	Tubercle Bacilli.
		1.c.c.	0.1cc. of 3 tubes.	0.1cc. of 3 tubes.			
312.	10,000 ^x	+	1	-	-	Trace.	None found
3	74,000	+	3	-	50	do.	do.
4	178,000	+	3	3	7	do.	do.
5	57,000 ^x	-	-	-	14	do.	do.
6	8,600	+	-	-	13	2	do.
7	215,000 ^x	+	-	-	30	2	do.
8	13,500	+	-	-	34	Trace.	do.
9	3,100	+	-	-	10	do.	do.
320	27,000	+	3	-	23	4	do.
1	125,000	+	-	-	11	Trace.	do.
2	9,000 ^x	-	-	-	25	do.	do.
3	19,200	+	-	-	52	4	do.
4	360,000	-	-	-	4	Trace.	do.
5	2,740,000 ^x	+	3	3	4	4	do.
6	520,000 ^x	+	2	-	2	2	do.
7	5,800,000	+	3	3	10	Trace.	do.
8	45,000	+	3	1	Trace.	None.	do.
9	53,000	+	3	2	do.	do.	do.
330	92,000	-	-	-	do.	do.	do.
1	580,000	+	3	3	do.	Trace.	do.
2	40,000	-	-	-	4	do.	do.
3	220,000	+	3	2	50	do.	do.

^xOut District Supply. Action is taken to improve the milk where necessary.

Milk containing extraneous matter, etc., over 6 parts per 100,000 is treated as unclean milk.

All Farmers are supplied with a copy of the Examination Certificate with suggestions typed at the foot.